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ABSTRACT

Shadows is an individualized, hands-on, real-world career experience that provides students with a structured look at the future world of work in health care. The program helps students build a bridge between school-based learning and established health care skills standards. Shadows focuses on expanding the student's horizons beyond the classroom and the neighborhood, paying special attention to broadening the student's health career awareness and pointing out connections between a student's current academics and future goals. It requires a clear understanding of, and commitment to, the value of educational experiences beyond the classroom. Through the Shadows program, students practice skills in nine core areas: academic foundation; oral and written communication; organizational systems; employability skills; legal responsibilities; ethical considerations; safety practices; teamwork and handling conflict; and health maintenance practices. Students are individually placed with a volunteer from government, business, higher education, or non-profit organizations. These professionals welcome students into their place of work, answer career-related questions, encourage observation of daily activities, and serve as role models. This booklet outlines the roles and responsibilities of Shadows students, hosts, program managers, and school staff. Handouts for student activities are included. (MKA)

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